



"C. S. Hecht" <csmagic@yahoo.com> on 10/19/2001 11:53:35 AM

RECEIVED

552861

To: YMP\_SR@ymp.gov  
cc:

OCT 19 2001

Subject: Yucca Mountain project site recommendation

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

October 19, 2001

Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham, Fax: 202-586-9987

cc: Carol Hanlon, DOE, YMSCO (MS#025)  
PO Box 30307, North Las Vegas, NV 89016-0307  
by fax, 800-967-0739  
and email to: YMP\_SR@ymp.gov  
cc: national media

Dear Energy Secretary Abraham,

Let me preface this letter by saying that you could become a national hero IF you choose to NOT recommend the Yucca Mountain unsuitable site as the national waste dump, decommission all nuclear power plants and spend the American taxpayer's money on renewable and clean, nontoxic energy sources of energy (wind, solar, hydro, biomass, fuel cells).

Please put this letter on the record regarding the Yucca Mountain project hearing process (about the way the hearings were conducted) by the Department of Energy and about the Yucca Mountain project:

1. The public should be able to see the complete site recommendation package before it goes to the President. As it stands, there is no Final Environmental Impact Statement, "Site Suitability" guidelines and transportation routes don't yet exist, and radiation standards are still in court. To hold these site recommendation hearings NOW is a travesty of justice.
2. Many people all over Nevada (between 50-100) have told me personally that their friends, work associates, schools, other teachers, neighbors and relatives would have come to the hearings IF they had known about it ahead of time (most told me they found out on the same day as the hearing, and some found out too late, or a few days AFTER the hearing had happened). They also told me that they did not know where to make comments. This is consistent with the schedule of ads that I received from a DOE representative at the Virginia City which shows beyond a shadow of a doubt that the ads were publicized on the same day as many of the hearings or after the fact which prevented people from attending the hearings and making comments.
3. I personally counted 100 or so cars of people who stopped because we had a sign that said Honk if you

were not able to speak and I spoke to at least 25-30 people at the Las Vegas hearing rally who were turned away from commenting because they found out that they would not be able to speak until after midnight, they had a difficult time finding the location, and were upset at the way the hearings were being conducted.

4. In Reno at the hearing when I asked how many people read the Federal Register, which is where the DOE lists the notices for the hearings, no one (in an audience of about 75 people) raised their hand.

5. Numerous people have called the Citizen Alert office and complained that they did not find out about the hearings until it was too late, and they did not know where to make comments.

6. High level nuclear waste from 103 sites could potentially create 100,000 shipments (targets for terrorists) that many many Americans are concerned about.

7. Some of the hard questions that Nevadans asked the DOE included could the casks and site withstand terrorist attacks and the answer time and again was no, there is no guarantee.

8. Americans are suffering the consequences from Sept 11, the war in Afghanistan, the anthrax scare and still generations of Nevadans rallied and came to these hearings despite the many obstacles put forth by the DOE. Time and again people said enough is enough. We have paid the price and we do not want our children, and our children's children to suffer from radiation.

9. In Reno, one mother with her baby boy in tow, spoke tearfully "I don't want my children to have to deal with this problem. It's not safe for him and I don't want my grandchildren and their children's children to have to deal with this either."

Others expressed outrage from years of frustration of not being listened to. Some said that Nevadans haven't made the mess, so why should we have to bear the brunt of dealing with it.

10. The real solutions to the nuclear waste problem comes down to dollars and sense not political expediency. The DOE and the nuclear power industry clearly want the public to think that the Yucca Mountain project is the answer to the nuclear waste problem. However, what will ultimately solve the problem is responsible waste management, cooperation, a united purpose/mission, and scientific answers.

Sincerely,

Celia S. Hecht  
Newsletter Editor  
Citizen Alert  
POB 5339  
Reno, NV 89513

2

552861

775-827-4200  
csmagic@yahoo.com

---

Do You Yahoo!?  
Make a great connection at Yahoo! Personals.  
<http://personals.yahoo.com>

3